Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of connecting an application server to an information system, ~~said information system having a first interface that can be used to access said information system,~~ said method comprising:

providing, utilizing a hardware application server, a generic connector interface on said hardware application server;

receiving information related to [[said]] an information system at said hardware application server, said information system having a first interface, said information system accessible utilizing said first interface;

generating, utilizing said hardware application server, a customized connector interface on said hardware application server, by modifying said generic connector interface, based on said received information; and

connecting, utilizing said hardware application server, said information system to said hardware application server via said customized connector, wherein said customized connector provides access to said information system through said first interface of said information system.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said providing of a generic connector interface comprises providing a software package.

3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 2, wherein said generic connector interface is provided as Resource Adaptor Archive (RAR) file, and wherein said information system is a relational database that is compliant with a Java DataBase Connection (JDBC) architecture.

4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 3, wherein said generating of said customized connector interface comprises: adding said first interface to said Resource Adaptor Archive (RAR) file.

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said providing of a generic connector interface comprises providing a Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (RAR) file.

6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said receiving of information related to said information system comprises:

receiving one or more parameters.

7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 6, wherein said receiving of information related to said information system further comprises receiving said one or more parameters as input through a Graphical User Interface (GUI).

8. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said providing of a generic connector interface comprises: providing a software package, and wherein said generating of a customized connector interface comprises:

adding said first interface to said software package.

9. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said connecting of said information system to said hardware application server comprises:

encapsulating said first interface by a second interface that is implemented after said generic connector interface is customized.

10. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 1, wherein generating a customized connector interface comprises:

generating a second interface that can encapsulate the first interface.

11-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) In a component based computing environment, an apparatus providing a connection interface for connecting an application component to an information system via an application server[[;]], comprising:

an application component;

an application server, communicably coupled to said application component; and

a connection interface, implemented by said application server, ~~wherein said connection interface is capable of operating~~ operable to connect said application server to a first information system, said first information system having a first interface and said first information system accessible utilizing said first interface, via [[a]] said first interface ~~that can be used to access the first information system~~, [[and]]

wherein said connection interface ~~is capable of operating~~ operable to encapsulate said first interface of said first information system~~, thereby~~ allowing said application server to establish a connection that connects [[the]] said application component to said first information system and wherein said connection interface is a configurable interface configurable to connect said application server to a second information system through a second interface which is different from the first interface.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The ~~connection interface~~ apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein the connector comprises a managed connection factory that is ~~capable of:~~

~~generating~~ operable to generate a connection factory[[;]] and ~~managing~~ manage a connection between said application component and said first information system.

20. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The ~~connection interface~~ apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein said application server comprises a connection manager that is ~~capable of interacting~~ operable to interact with said managed connection factory.

21. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The ~~connection interface~~ apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein said application server provides a container-based environment, and wherein said application server comprises one or more of the following components:

a security service manager, a pool manager, and a transaction manager.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of connecting an application server to an information system, ~~said information system having a first interface that can be used to access said information system,~~ said method comprising:

providing a Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (GRAR) file ~~that can be configured~~ configurable to ~~use said first interface to~~ access ~~said first~~ an information system, said information system having an interface and said information system accessible via said interface, utilizing said interface;

opening said Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (GRAR) file;

adding said interface to said Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (GRAR) file;

receiving one or more properties associated with said information system;

modifying said Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (GRAR) file, based on said one or more properties, to generate a Customized Resource Adaptor Archive (CRAR) file; and

using the Customized Resource Adaptor Archive (CRAR) file to connect said application server to said first information system.

23. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 22, wherein said method further comprises:

deploying said Customized Resource Adaptor Archive (CRAR) using a deployment tool.

24. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 23, wherein said opening and modifying of said Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (GRAR) file comprises:

using a graphical interface associated with a deployment tool to open or modify said Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (GRAR) file.

25. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 21, wherein said modifying of said Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (GRAR) file comprises:

modifying a deployment descriptor.

26. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 22, wherein said modifying of said Generic Resource Adaptor Archive (GRAR) file comprises:

modifying a deployment descriptor.

27. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 26, wherein said modifying of said deployment descriptor comprises:

editing an XML file, using a Graphical user interface.

28. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method as recited in claim 26, wherein said modifying of deployment descriptor comprises:

editing one or more of the following properties:

a server Name, a port number, a user name, a password, a database name, a data source name, a description, a network protocol, a role name, a login timeout, driver properties, a delimiter, and a class name.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium including computer program code for connecting an application server to an information system, ~~said information system having a first interface that can be used to access said information system,~~ said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code, stored in at least one computer readable medium and executable by at least one processing unit, for providing a generic connector interface;

computer program code, stored in the at least one computer readable medium and executable by the at least one processing unit, for receiving information related to [[said]] an information system, said information system having a first interface, said information system accessible utilizing said first interface;

computer program code, stored in the at least one computer readable medium and executable by the at least one processing unit, for generating a customized connector

interface, by modifying said generic connector interface, based on said received information; and

computer program code, stored in the at least one computer readable medium and executable by the at least one processing unit, for connecting said information system to said application server via said customized connector, wherein said customized connector provides access to said information system through said first interface of said information system.

30. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The computer readable medium as recited in claim 29, wherein said computer programming code, stored in at least one computer readable medium and executable by at least one processing unit, for providing a generic connector interface comprises:

providing a software package.

31. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The computer readable medium as recited in claim 30, wherein said generic connector interface is provided as Resource Adaptor Archive (RAR) file, and wherein said information system is a relational database is compliant with a Java DataBase Connection (JDBC) architecture.